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ABSTRACT

This textbook for elementary school teachers is based on the 'synoptic method' which involves: (1) bringing together ideas, materials, children, adults, values, beliefs, behaviors, teaching and learning strategies and more; (2) selecting, planning, organizing, and presenting specific learning experiences from a pool of possibilities; and (3) assessing the degrees of success of these experiences. Teachers using the synoptic method for social studies demonstrate the notion of consciously choosing a particular learning experience(s) as the best selection from among a number of different possibilities for one particular group of children. Chapters include: (1) "Building a Teaching Kit"; (2) "The Child and Youth Culture"; (3) "Community and Education"; (4) "Teachers and Learning Experiences"; (5) "A Formula for Social Studies"; (6) "Applying the Synoptic Method"; and (7) Social Studies and Schools." Six appendices supply additional information and identify resources. (EH)

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